

Message Text

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TAGS: US, UK,

SUBJECT:PROPOSED STATEMENT ON NORTHERN IRELAND

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT PROPOSED STATEMENT ON NORTHERN
IRELAND:

2. BEGIN TEXT: THROUGHOUT OUR HISTORY, AMERICANS HAVE
RIGHTLY RECALLED THE CONTRIBUTIONS MEN AND WOMEN FROM MANY
COUNTRIES HAVE MADE TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE UNITED STATES.
AMONG THE GREATEST CONTRIBUTIONS HAVE BEEN THOSE OF PEOPLE
FROM GREAT BRITAIN, NORTHERN IRELAND AND SOUTHERN IRELAND,
PROTESTANT AND CATHOLIC ALIKE. WE ARE CONSCIOUS AND PROUD
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OF OUR BRITISH, IRISH AND SCOTS-IRISH HERITAGE. WE HAVE
CLOSE TIES OF FRIENDSHIP WITH BOTH PARTS OF IRELAND, AND
WITH GREAT BRITAIN.

THUS IT IS NATURAL THAT AMERICANS ARE DEEPLY CONCERNED
ABOUT THE CONTINUING CONFLICT AND VIOLENCE IN NORTHERN
IRELAND. WE KNOW THE OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF BOTH COMMUN-

ITIES REJECT THE BOMB AND THE BULLET, AND BELIEVE THAT ONLY A NEGOTIATED POLITICAL SETTLEMENT CAN BRING PEACE. THE UNITED STATES WHOLEHEARTEDLY SUPPORTS PEACEFUL MEANS FOR FINDING A JUST SOLUTION THAT INVOLVES THE TWO COMMUNITIES OF NORTHERN IRELAND AND PROTECTS HUMAN RIGHTS. VIOLENCE

CANNOT RESOLVE NORTHERN IRELAND'S PROBLEMS; IT INCREASES THEM, AND SOLVES NOTHING.

WE HOPE THAT ALL THOSE ENGAGED IN VIOLENCE WILL RENOUNCE THIS COURSE AND COMMIT THEMSELVES TO PEACEFUL PURSUIT OF LEGITIMATE GOALS. THE PATH OF RECONCILIATION, COOPERATION AND PEACE IS THE ONLY COURSE THAT CAN END THE HUMAN SUFFERING AND LEAD TO A BRIGHT FUTURE FOR ALL THE PEOPLE OF NORTHERN IRELAND. I ASK ALL AMERICANS TO REFRAIN FROM ANY ACTION WHICH DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY CONTRIBUTES TO THE VIOLENCE AND SO DELAYS THE DAY WHEN THE PEOPLE OF NORTHERN IRELAND CAN LIVE AND WORK TOGETHER IN HARMONY, FREE FROM FEAR. FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES WILL CONTINUE VIGOROUSLY TO APPREHEND AND PROSECUTE ANY WHO VIOLATE US LAWS IN THIS REGARD.

US GOVERNMENT POLICY ON THE NORTHERN IRELAND ISSUE HAS LONG BEEN AND REMAINS ONE OF IMPARTIALITY. WE SUPPORT A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT INVOLVING BOTH COMMUNITIES, BUT HAVE NO INTENTION OF TELLING THE PARTIES HOW THAT SETTLEMENT CONFIDENTIAL

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SHOULD BE ACHIEVED. THE ONLY PERMANENT SOLUTION WILL COME FROM THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE THERE. THERE ARE NO SOLUTIONS THAT OUTSIDERS CAN IMPOSE.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE PEOPLE OF NORTHERN IRELAND SHOULD KNOW THAT THEY HAVE OUR COMPLETE SUPPORT IN THEIR QUEST FOR A PEACEFUL AND JUST SOCIETY WHICH IS THE RIGHT OF ALL, AND WHICH THEY HAVE SOUGHT SO LONG. IT IS A TRIBUTE TO THE HARDWORKING PEOPLE AND BASIC ATTRACTION OF NORTHERN IRELAND THAT INVESTMENT AS A WHOLE HAS BEEN MAINTAINED AT A SATISFACTORY LEVEL, DESPITE THE UNREST CAUSED BY A SMALL MINORITY. THIS IS TO BE WELCOMED, SINCE INVESTMENT AND OTHER PROGRAMS TO CREATE JOBS WILL ASSIST IN ENSURING A VIABLE ECONOMY AND COMBATTING UNEMPLOYMENT. IT IS ALSO TRUE, HOWEVER, THAT A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT WOULD CONTRIBUTE IMMEASURABLY TO STABILITY IN NORTHERN IRELAND AND SO ENHANCE THE PROSPECTS FOR INCREASED INVESTMENT. IN THE EVENT OF SUCH A SETTLEMENT, THE US GOVERNMENT WOULD BE PREPARED TO JOIN WITH OTHERS TO SEE HOW ADDITIONAL JOB-CREATING INVESTMENT COULD BE ENCOURAGED, TO THE BENEFIT OF ALL THE PEOPLE OF NORTHERN IRELAND.

I ADMIRE THE MANY TRUE FRIENDS OF NORTHERN IRELAND IN THIS COUNTRY WHO SPEAK OUT FOR PEACE. EMOTIONS RUN HIGH ON THIS SUBJECT AND THE EASIEST COURSE IS NOT TO STAND UP FOR CONCILIATION. I PLACE MYSELF FIRMLY ON THE SIDE OF THOSE WHO SEEK PEACE AND REJECT VIOLENCE IN NORTHERN IRELAND. END TEXT.

3. TEXT OF STATEMENT HAS BEEN GIVEN UK AND IRISH EMBASSIES

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